

Amendments to the Specification:**Please amend paragraph 17 as indicated:**

[00017] For at least one embodiment, as non-NOP instructions are issued to their respective execution units 110a-110n ~~50a-50n~~, they are assigned entries in the ROB 112 for any results they may generate. That is, a place is reserved in the ROB 112, which may be implemented as a queue, for each non-NOP instruction. For at least one embodiment, such allocation is performed by folding logic 116. Folding logic 116 need not necessarily be stand-alone logic as illustrated in Fig. 1. For instance, for at least one embodiment folding logic 116 is implemented as part of a decoder (not shown).